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Summary record (partial)* of the 3489th meeting
Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Monday, 2 July 2018, at 10 a.m.

Chair: Mr. Shany

Contents

Opening of the session

Election of the Chair and other officers of the Committee

Adoption of the agenda

Organizational and other matters, including the adoption of the report of the Working Group on Communications

* No summary record was prepared for the rest of the meeting.

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Mr. Korkeakivi (Chief, Capacity-Building and Harmonization Section, Human Rights Treaties Division, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights) took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Opening of the session

1. **The Temporary Chair**, speaking as the representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, said that the Committee's work to protect and promote the rights enshrined in the Covenant was more important than ever, given that human rights and international human rights law were increasingly under attack.

2. The recent annual meeting of the Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies had focused on the alignment of working methods and preparation for the 2020 review of the treaty body system. The Chairs had reached a number of decisions, taking into account the views of the Committee; they had agreed, for example, to propose the appointment of focal points within each treaty body to establish a common position ahead of the 2020 review.

3. The Chairs had met with various stakeholders, including Member States, United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations. They had addressed a number of issues during their meeting with Member States, including late reporting and multilingualism. The lack of resources faced by the Committee had been raised at several meetings. The Chairs had also met with the Secretary-General, who had expressed his strong support for the treaty bodies; his next report on treaty body strengthening would highlight some of the challenges faced by those bodies.

4. During its upcoming session, the Committee would consider the reports of six States parties and would review a large number of individual communications. It would continue its second reading of draft general comment No. 36 on the right to life and its consideration of the draft revised rules of procedure. It would also hold meetings with various stakeholders.

5. The Chair of the Committee, Mr. Iwasawa, had recently resigned following his election as a judge at the International Court of Justice. One of the Vice-Chairs, Ms. Jelić, would also be stepping down from the Committee to assume her role as a judge at the European Court of Human Rights.

Election of the Chair and other officers of the Committee

6. **Mr. de Frouville** nominated Mr. Shany for the office of Chair, in accordance with rule 22 of the Committee's rules of procedure.

7. **Ms. Waterval** seconded the nomination.

8. **Mr. Fathalla**, speaking on behalf of the African members of the Committee, seconded the nomination. He recalled that, in 2019, it would be the turn of the African group to nominate a candidate for the office of Chair, in line with the practice of regional rotation, as agreed at the Committee's previous session.

9. **Ms. Jelić**, speaking on behalf of the members from the Eastern European informal group, seconded the nomination.

10. *Mr. Shany was elected Chair by acclamation.*

11. *Mr. Shany took the Chair.*

12. **Ms. Cleveland** nominated Mr. Politi for the office of Vice-Chair, in accordance with rule 22 of the Committee's rules of procedure.

13. **Mr. Fathalla**, speaking on behalf of the African members, **Ms. Jelić**, speaking on behalf of the Eastern European informal group, and **Ms. Waterval** seconded the nomination.

14. *Mr. Politi was elected Vice-Chair by acclamation.*

Adoption of the agenda (CCPR/C/123/1)

15. **Ms. Habtom** (Secretary of the Committee) explained that the programme of work had been amended slightly at the request of two of the reporting States, Bahrain and the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

16. *The agenda was adopted.*

Organizational and other matters, including the adoption of the report of the Working Group on Communications

17. **Ms. Jelić** said that the Working Group on Communications had considered 36 communications. It recommended finding a violation of the Covenant in 22 cases and a non-violation in 2 cases; 6 of the cases allowed for two possible interpretations and 5 should be declared inadmissible. Discussion of the remaining case had been postponed until the following session.

18. Six cases had been considered under the repetitive communications procedure. One had been set aside for examination at the following session and the other five would be discussed further with the Rapporteur for repetitive communications.

19. *The report of the Working Group on Communications was adopted.*

The discussion covered in the summary record ended at 10.35 a.m.